









## THROUGH CENTRAL AUSTRALIA.

## LARGE AREAS OF PASTORAL LANDS.

The State Government expedition which left Adelaide at the end of last March to explore for gold and other minerals in the country between Oodnadatta and the extreme north-west corner of the State, in the vicinity of the Musgrave, Mann, and Tomkinson ranges has returned.

The leader, Mr. A. Wells, in the course of a lengthy statement as to the results of the expedition, said: "Although we made a careful examination of the country at Mount Davis, we found no traces of gold. Indeed, the locality was very disappointing for mineral deposits. After examining the Tomkinson ranges, which were inspected by two parties, Mr. F. R. George leading one, and myself the other, we examined in a similar manner the Mann ranges, which extend almost to the extreme north-west corner of this State. Also the country north of the 26th parallel in the Northern Territory, lying between the Mann and Petermann ranges, where a good deal of country is covered by tertiary deposits, chiefly sand. Here we found several exposed patches of country, the rock being of a granitic nature, with large quartz reefs, but of poor quality.

"We carried this examination to the eastern end of Petermann ranges, and at Stevenson's Peak, where quartzite of great thickness caps the granite formation. Here we noted numerous white quartz reefs, but these were not encouraging. However, at two spots, nine and 16 miles respectively to the south-east of Stevenson's Peak, are two small areas of a promising nature. From this point north to Lake Amadeus and north-west, between Lake and Petermann ranges, I regard as being well worthy of the attention of prospectors.

"After examining the Musgrave ranges, and making a geological inspection of Mount Olga, Ayer's Rock, and Mount Connor, we inspected the Avers' range in the Northern Territory. Also the country between the Musgrave ranges and Indukana and Everard ranges. At these latter localities, beyond large quantities of granitic rock and numerous diorite dykes, we found nothing promising for metal, except a small patch near Indukana, at which we found nothing of value. So far as the Musgrave, Mann, Tomkinson, and Avers ranges are concerned, I am afraid there is little probability of metalliferous discoveries being made; whilst the Petermann ranges and around Lake Amadeus I regard as likely country and well worthy of a thorough examination."

Mr. Wells says he had no trouble with the natives, and, indeed, in all his numerous exploring expeditions he has never had to resort to firearms. He added: "We were fortunate in striking a splendid season, the country being covered with grasses and herbage in and around the ranges, where there is some splendid pastoral country. All the lower hills and ridges and valleys are thickly covered with kangaroo and other grasses, geranium vetch, everlasting, and other herbage. The timber generally is mulga, in the desert or spinifex country, which is also suitable for stock. There are forests of desert oaks, parklike in appearance. The trunks are perfectly straight from 15 ft. to 30 ft. high and up to 2 ft. in diameter. The best forests seen by me were north of the Mann ranges.

"We located several new waters, two of which are very important. These are in the Tomkinson ranges. At one of these there was a strong stream of fresh water, where large quantities of water were running away per diem. There had apparently been no rain here for two or three months. There would be no difficulty in obtaining a permanent supply of fresh water throughout all these ranges by well-sinking around the enormous granite outcrops. Careful geological notes and samples have been taken by Mr. H. R. George and Mr. H. Basedow, who also have made a study of geology and have taken notes and photographs throughout the trip. Some of the latter, I think, will be very interesting.

"Although no discoveries of metals were made, the expedition, I hope, may assist others in prospecting where there is a likelihood of success, and preventing further waste of public money in sending parties to where there is little promise of reward. We travelled over 3,000 miles, and brought back all the camels (20) alive. They were left at Mount Searle depot in good condition."

Among the curiosities brought back by the expedition are samples of pure honey collected by ants, and of strong lustrous silk produced in large quantities by spiders—Ex.

## Masonic.

ZETLAND LODGE,  
No. 525, E.C.

A REGULAR MEETING of ZETLAND LODGE will be held at the Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, on MONDAY, the 28th instant, at 5.30 for 6 P.M. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend. Hongkong, 22nd December, 1903. [1535]

## AN APPEAL.

THE SUPERIORESS of the ITALIAN CONVENT, CAINE ROAD, begs most respectfully to APPEAL to the Residents of Hongkong and the Coast Ports, for their kind patronage and support, and desires to state that she will be pleased to receive orders for all kinds of NEEDLE WORK. Gentlemen's Shirts made to order, and Cuffs and Collars renewed on old ones. Ladies and Children's Under-clothing, Children's Dresses, and all kinds of Embroidery. Materials can be supplied, if required. The Superiores will also be most grateful for any PAPER, or old ENVELOPES to be made into Books for the Children of the Poor Schools, who are taught by the Sisters. Hongkong, 22nd April, 1904.

## Consignees.

## NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship  
"COROMANDEL,"  
FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

This vessel brings on Cargo:—  
From London, &c., ex S.S. Himalaya.  
From Australia, ex S.S. Australia.  
From Persian Gulf, &c., ex B. I. S. N. and B. & P. S. N. Co.'s Steamers.

Options of Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 5 P.M. TO-DAY.

Goods not cleared by the 25th instant, at 4 P.M., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees' and the Company's representative at an appointed hour.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns.

E. A. HEWETT,  
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1903.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.  
FROM MIDDLESBOROUGH, LONDON AND STRAITS.

THE Steamship

"RADNORSHIRE,"  
Captain C. H. Burch, having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, at Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 27th instant will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 28th instant, at 2.30 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 21st December, 1903. [15266]

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship

"NAMSANG,"  
having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge or remaining on board after the 25th instant, at 12 o'clock Noon, will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense into Godowns at East Point.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1903. [1540]

## Entimations.

MEE CHEUNG,  
PHOTOGRAPHER,  
TOP FLOOR OF ICE HOUSE, IN  
The Arcade, N.S.

I am now in a position, in his New and Commodious Premises, to receive, as heretofore, all PHOTOGRAPHIC ART PRACTICES in the Colony or in any part of the Far East. GROUPS AND VIEWS.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1903.

THE HONGKONG STUDIO,  
HIGHER CLASS PHOTOGRAPHER,  
41 & 43, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,  
TOP FLOOR.

PORTRAITS, GROUPS and ENLARGING and COPYING in all Sizes.

LARGE SELECTION OF VIEWS ALWAYS ON HAND.

PRICE VERY MODERATE.  
Hongkong, 15th September, 1903. [11206]

**SANITAS**

FLUID OIL  
GRUBB FLUID  
POWDER  
EMBUROGATION  
SOAPS  
DISINFECTORS  
INHALERS  
FUMIGATORS

COLORED FRAGRANT  
NON-POISONOUS  
DOES NOT STAIN  
KILLS ALL  
DISEASE  
GERMS.  
OXYGENATES  
THE AIR.

Disinfectant

"HOW TO DISINFECT" Book Free.

THE "SANITAS" CO., Ltd.,  
Bathurst Green, LONDON, E.

## Entimations.

## A FOOLISH OLD IDEA.

It was once thought that a medicine was all the more beneficial for having a nasty taste and smell. We now know that such an idea is perfect nonsense. There is no more reason why medicine should offend the senses than why food should do so. Therefore, one of the greatest chemical victories of the past few years is what we may call the *redemption* of cod liver oil. Everybody knows what a vile taste and smell this drug has in its natural state. No wonder most people declare they would rather suffer from disease than take cod liver oil, and the emulsions are quite as foul and abominable as the plain oil, no matter what may be alleged to the contrary. Now it is one of nature's laws that a medicine which disgusts the nose and the palate, and also sickens the stomach, can have no good effect as a medicine; because the system revolts against it, and cries out to be delivered from it. In

**WAMPOLE'S PREPARATION**  
the desired miracle is wrought, and we have the valuable part of the oil, without the other. This effective modern remedy is palatable as honey and contains the nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod Liver Oil, extracted by us from fresh cod livers, combined with the Compound Syrup of "Typhosphites and the Extracts of Malt and Wild Cherry. The palate accepts it as it does sugar, confectionery or cream. Taken before meals it goes to the very secret strong old "digestive disorders: prevents and cures Nervous Dyspepsia, Anemia, Throat and Lung Troubles and all diseases due to impurity of the blood. Dr. G. C. Shannon, of Canada, says: "I shall continue its use with, I am sure, great advantage to my patients and satisfaction to myself. It has all the virtues of cod liver oil, none of its faults. It was made to cure and it sells because it cures. One bottle convinces. Effective from the first dose. 'It never disappoints.' Sold by chemists the world over and A. S. Watson & Co., Limited.

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**THE ROBINSON PIANO CO. LTD.**

THERE IS NO  
**XMAS GIFT**  
GIVES SUCH GREAT AND PERMANENT PLEASURE AS

**THE "APOLLO" PIANO PLAYER**

**IT IS A REVELATION**

**VICTOR TALKING MACHINES**

Pay PART Cash and Balance LATER.

**absolute reproduction of the human voice.**

**Songs by the Best Singers,  
Comic Songs and Speeches,  
Good Band Music.**

**SPECIAL OFFER**  
at this Season.  
PAY for the Records now and for the Machine LATER.

**PIANOS;**  
Magnificent instruments at specially Low Prices during Xmas week. Do not fail to inspect our stock if you wish to make a handsome gift.

Our NEW STOCK OF MUSIC has arrived.  
Hongkong, 22nd December, 1903. [4158]

**BIG CURE**

**CURES MEN & WOMEN**

Big C is a non-poisonous remedy for any kind of discharge and inflammation, irritation or ulceration of mucous membranes. Painless. Guaranteed not to strip, prevent conception.

SOLD BY CHEMISTS. Circular mailed on request. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

The Great Chemical Co. CINCINNATI, O. U. S. A.

## Entimation.

## THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH.

1, ICE HOUSE ROAD,  
HONGKONG.

CABLE ADDRESS.—Telegraph, Hongkong.

THE leading English Newspaper in China

Also widely circulated in Japan, Ceylon, China, Ceylon, India and the Far East generally.

A daily newspaper with weekly edition published for despatch by the homeward mail.

The daily is recommended as more generally suitable, except for subscribers in Europe or America.

A special feature is made of full and accurate reports of local occurrences, and of matters of general interest.

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

The Hongkong Telegraph is the best medium for advertising in China. It circulates largely among all classes of the community, is the largest daily newspaper and has a wider circulation than any journal in the Far East.

Special attention given to effectively displaying advertisements.

The type used as a standard for setting advertisements is similar to this, unless we are instructed to display the advertisement, when any effective style of type will be adopted.

This standard runs exactly eight lines to the inch, and about eight words to the line.

ADVERTISING RATES.

(per inch.)

One week,.....\$ 2.85

One month..... 7.20

Two months..... 13.00

Three "..... 20.00

Six "..... 37.50

Twelve "..... 73.00

No charge less than one dollar.

Discount allowed on—

3 Months Contracts..... 5 per cent.

6 "..... 10 "

12 "..... 25 "

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

Notices of Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

5¢ each insertion in the Daily and Weekly.

CONTRACT ADVERTISEMENTS.

Special Rates for standing advertisements can be ascertained from the Manager.

Advertisements for the Daily should reach the Hongkong Telegraph Office not later than noon of the day they are intended to appear.

Unless otherwise specified all advertisements will be repeated and charged for until countermanded.

JOBBING DEPARTMENT.

Job-Printing of all descriptions undertaken.

PROGRAMMES.

PAMPHLETS.

CARDS.

CIRCULARS.

EXPRESSSES.

All job printing is done under European supervision; well turned out, free from errors, and remarkably cheap at

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

Estimates given for all classes of work on application to

THE MANAGER,  
HONGKONG TELEGRAPH CO., LTD.,  
1, Ice House Road,  
Hongkong.

## Mails.

## NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

(THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.)



PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STAMERS.	DESTINATIONS.	SAILING DATES.
KAGOSHIMA MARU..... K. Kori	MOJI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA.....	FRIDAY, 25th Dec., at Daylight.
BINGO MARU..... F. Davies	MARSEILLES, LONDON & ANTWERP, VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO and PORT SAID.....	SATURDAY, 26th Dec., at 2 A.M.
HIROSHIMA MARU..... J. Nagao	BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.....	TUESDAY, 29th Dec., at Noon.
KAGA MARU..... N. Ohno	VICTORIA, B.C., and SEATTLE, U.S.A., VIA SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA.....	TUESDAY, 29th Dec., at 4 P.M.
KASUGA MARU..... W. Scott Hunter	NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA.....	WEDNESDAY, 30th Dec., at Noon.
YAWATA MARU..... A. E. Moses	SYDNEY and MELBOURNE, VIA THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNSVILLE and BRISBANE.....	WEDNESDAY, 30th Dec., at 4 P.M.

\* Through Passenger Tickets issued for the Principal Cities in the United States, Canada and Europe, in connection with the GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY and Atlantic Steamers. Round-the-World Tickets also issued. Between Moji and Kobe, 1st and 2nd Class Through Passengers have the Option of Travelling by the Sanyo Railway.

For further Information as to Freight, Passage, Sailings, &c., apply at the Company's Local Branch Office in Prince's Building, 1st Floor, Chater Road.

A. S. MIHARA,  
Manager.

Hongkong, 24th December, 1903.

## COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS-POSTE FRANCAIS.

NOTICE.

STEAM FOR  
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, COLOMBO, ADEN, EGYPT, MARSEILLES, MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA PORTS, LONDON, HAVRE, BORDEAUX; ALSO

PORTS OF BRAZIL AND RIVER PLATE.

ON TUESDAY, the 29th December, 1903, at 1 P.M., the Company's Steamship "SALAZIE," Captain Nègre, with Mails, Passengers, Specie and Cargo will leave this Port for MARSEILLES, via Ports of Call, WITHOUT TRANSIT.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.

Shipping Orders will be granted till NOON only on MONDAY, the 28th instant. Specie and Parcels received until 4 P.M. on the same day. No Cargo will be received on board on TUESDAY.

Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office. Contents and Value of Packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply at the Company's Office.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,  
Agent.

Hongkong, 17th December, 1903. [10046]

NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

BOSTON STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

BOSTON TOW-BOAT COMPANY.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, VIA SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA, FOR VICTORIA, B.C., AND TACOMA, IN CONNECTION WITH NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

Steamers marked (\*) have no second-class passenger accommodation.

The attention of passengers is directed to the very cheap rates offered by this line to the Pacific Coast and to the Interior and Eastern Cities of the United States and to Europe.

Special rates allowed to members of Government Service.

Through Bills of Lading issued to Pacific Coast Ports and to the Principal Cities in the United States and Canada.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,  
General Agents,  
Hongkong, 24th December, 1903. [874d]

Hotel.

KING EDWARD HOTEL.

A HIGH CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL.

LADIES' AFTERNOON TEA ROOMS.

PRIVATE BAR AND BILLIARD ROOMS.

Hot and Cold Water throughout.

Electrically Lighted.

Electric Fans (if required).

Electric Passenger Elevator to each Floor.

Table D' Hôte at Separate Tables.

For Terms, &c., apply to the

MANAGER.  
Hongkong, 14th October, 1902. [1119d]

**THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.**

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL, AMERICAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"SIMLA,"  
Captain F. R. Summers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this Port for BOMBAY, on SATURDAY, the 2nd January, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports.

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France, and Tea for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into a steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London; other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed via Bombay.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Bills of Lading.

For further Particulars, apply to E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 21st December, 1903. [15406]

For Sale.

FOR SALE.

HEATH'S PATENT HEZZANITH BELL, SEXTANTS. Other Makers: HUGHES, CARY & POTTER, &c., to be sold cheap.

Apply—

"BOX,"  
C/o Hongkong Telegraph Office.  
Hongkong, 22nd December, 1903. [15356]

FOR SALE.

ONE SIMPLEX PIANO PLAYER, by KOHLER and CAMPBELL, and 12 Music Sheets. Just received from the Makers. At Manufacturers' Price, very cheap.

For Particulars, apply to

"C.E.,"  
C/o Hongkong Telegraph,  
Hongkong, 8th December, 1903. [14746]

FOR SALE.

INCANDESCENT GASOLINE LAMPS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS, from the best makers.

INCANDESCENT MANTLES, CHIMNEYS, GLOBES, SHADES, &c., for

GASOLINE AND GAS LAMPS at the most moderate prices.

Lamps fixed up for Buyers free of charge.

Naphtha of the best kind kept in stock.

TAI KWONG CO.,  
56, Lyndhurst Terrace,  
Hongkong, 1st December, 1903. [13756]

Insurance.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned AGENTS of the above Company are prepared to accept First Class FOREIGN and CHINESE RISKS at CURRENT RATES.

SIEMSEN & CO.,  
Hongkong, 24th May, 1904. [15406]



## Intimations.



ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,  
LIMITED.

## PORT

Per doz. Per lot.

B.—OLD VINTAGE, superior quality, Red Capsule—\$16.00 \$1.40

C.—FINE OLD VINTAGE superior quality, Black Seal Capsule 20.00 1.70

D.—VERY FINE OLD VINTAGE, extra superior, (old bottled), Violet Capsule—27.00 2.25

NOTE.—Port, after removal, should be rested for a month before use.

Wine required for IMMEDIATE use should be ordered to be decanted before being sent out.

These Wines are specially suited for Invalids and general use, and are too well known to need further comment.

A. S. WATSON & Co.,  
LIMITED.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

TELEPHONE NO. 456.  
CABLE ADDRESS: "ACHIE," HONGKONG.  
A. B. C. CODE, 4TH EDITION.

ESTABLISHED 1859.

A CHEE & CO.,  
祥利廣TEMPORARY STORE:  
1ST FLOOR, 12, QUEEN'S ROAD,  
(above Messrs. H. PRICE & Co.)

XMAS &amp; NEW YEAR CARDS.

FURNITURE  
DEALERS.DRAWING-ROOM,  
DINING-ROOM,  
and BED-ROOM  
FURNITURE.ELECTRO-PLATED,  
GLASS, and  
CHINA WARES.PASTEUR'S MICROBE-PROOF  
FILTERS,  
ROCHESTER LAMPS,  
WHITE TURKISH TOWELS,  
COUNTERPANES.COOKING RANGES,  
KITCHEN UTENSILS, and  
HOUSEHOLD REQUISITES.PHOTOGRAPHIC  
DEPARTMENT.  
DEVELOPING and PRINTING  
UNDERTAKEN BY AMATEURS.  
GOOD WORK.  
PROMPT RETURN.

Hongkong, 29th August, 1903. [28d]

CARMICHAEL AND  
CLARKE,  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND  
SHIPBUILDERS,  
SURVEYORS AND CONTRACTORS.

REPAIRS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

TELEGRAMS: "CARMICHAEL," Hongkong.

A. B. C. Code, 4th Edition.

A. C. Code.

Lieber's Standard Code.

TELEPHONE, 232.

Hongkong, 20th March, 1903. [3550]

THE Beer to drink in the tropics is the Beer  
made in the tropics—SAN MIGUEL.

NOTICE.  
All communications intended for publication in  
the "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be  
addressed to the Editor, 1, Lee House Road, and  
should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and  
Address.  
Ordinary business communications should be addressed  
to The Manager.  
The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for  
any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (IN ADVANCE).  
DAILY—\$30 per annum.  
WEEKLY—\$12 per annum.  
The rates per quarter and per month, proportional.  
The daily issue is delivered free when the address is  
accessible to messenger. On copies sent by post an  
additional \$1.80 per quarter is charged for postage.  
The postage on the weekly issue to any part of the  
world is 30 cents per quarter.  
Single Copies Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-  
five cents.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, DEC. 24, 1903.

OUR FOOD SUPPLY.

Commercial circles in Hongkong will be interested to learn that a Celestial syndicate is in course of formation for the importation of Shorthorn bulls, for stud purposes, in the New Territory. The step is the outcome of a Government report on the condition of the pasture land on the hilly slopes beyond Kowloon. The move is one of no mean importance, as it is likely to improve the well-being of the European inhabitants of the Colony. The food supply has always been a burning question, and one upon which there has been much diversity of opinion. Vegetarians have held that there is danger in greenstuffs in consequence of Chinese methods of cultivation, and others have looked to rice as the principal cereal for the table. There have been many who have expressed an opinion that, in the event of hostilities, both Hongkong and the mainland could be cut off with, practically, no source of supply; and others have urged that the Government should do something towards perfecting the vitualling of its subjects. The general cry—even at this time when the bountiful hand is held forth in every direction—is, "The price of food has again increased." It is the complaint of the hour, and one which is voiced in many a petition to the authorities for better pay, and a more liberal consideration for services rendered. The contemplated effort to import English cattle is not altogether new, but it opens up a tremendous thought for those who are interested in the welfare of the Colony. There are now over two thousand head of cattle in the Colony, the best portion of which are for export to Manila. Four or five steamers leave every week for the Philippines with their live freights, carrying away absolutely the pick of the market. There are over one hundred head kept in reserve for troops, inclusive of the naval supplies. From the West and North rivers the importations are increasing, and with the steady growth of the population, the meat supply must always form a special item of trade interest. Cattle dealers have not always been successful in their undertakings here, and there have been many reasons why herds have not flourished. Pasture land requires considerable cultivation, and where it has been undertaken by those who are, so to speak, indigenous to the soil, it has almost always turned out fruitless. The Celestial is a born cultivator, and now that the New Territories are becoming to be regarded in more than the light of "A White Elephant," the enterprising syndicate should receive the most liberal consideration in any application they might have to make to the Government for the furtherance of their efforts.

## THE SIAMSEF QUESTION.

Though there are doubts as to the exactitude of the reports contained in many of the latest home papers, concerning an impending rupture of the diplomatic negotiations between France and Siam—and little faith can be placed in a recent announcement that the authorities in Indo-China are massing troops at Chantabom—it is nevertheless certain that the vexed question of the ownership of the right bank of the Mekong River is likely to lead to serious complications in the near future. An attempt was made last year, by Mr. Delcassé, to revise the Treaty of October 3rd, 1893, by which the Siamese Government renounced all pretensions to the left bank of the river and the whole of the different islands. A new treaty was drafted which met with the approval of the statesmen of both countries, but the Chamber of Deputies, influenced by the French Colonial Party, at whose head is M. Doumer, the former Governor-General of Indo-China, refused to ratify the terms of the new agreement. Desirous of gaining time, and to avoid the defeat of the Ministry on a question of secondary importance, M. Delcassé announced that the discussion on the question would be delayed until December this year, the treaty of 1893 remaining

the *modus vivendi* in the meanwhile. The Colonial Party in Paris claim that, not only the right bank of the Mekong, should come under the administration of France, but that the territories, of which Korat and Bussak are the principal towns, should also be added to the possessions of the Republic. Their plea is that the country was formerly wrested by the Siamese from Cambodia, now a French protectorate. It is certain that in the negotiations, now going on, between the Quai d'Orsay and the Siamese Plenipotentiary, have as their main object the discovery of a "middle way," likely to be acceptable to the progressive colonials in the French Chamber and capable of nursing the susceptibilities of national sentiment in Siam. However, it is just possible that, profiting by the gravity of the crisis in the north, France's statesmen might judge the moment opportune to seize and occupy, *manu militari*, the contested territories.

## CHRISTMASIDE.

The return of another Christmas recalls the memories of the past. Bitter though they may sometimes be, when looking through the vista, we can generally bring to mind some brighter souvenir giving to our sombre regrets a certain sweetness. To-day, the spirit of that "Peace on Earth" has as much force as it did when it went forth from the manger at Bethlehem. It lingers in our memories with the vitality of old, unmarred by time, infusing in our sentiments a desire for good-will towards our fellow men. Now comes to us the return of our former hopes and aspirations, and we cast to the four winds all the recriminations of the past twelve months. We, in the Far East, should specially feel this season of good-will, being for the most part exiles from the Motherland—the objects of our cherished affections, and our ties of boyhood friendships afar and overseas. Yet can we find some compensation in the assurance that in the Homeland the absent ones are not forgotten, and in extending our good wishes to those who like ourselves, are fighting life's battles in this distant corner of our Empire. Whole hearted is our wish and cordial our desire that each and every one of our readers will pass

"A MERRY XMAS."

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE British cruiser *Fearless* has arrived from Saigon.

No League cricket match is down for decision this week.

FURTHER calendars, etc. have been received from Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Reuter, Brockmann & Co., S. J. David & Co., Benjamin, Kelly & Potts, and Omar Cassum Moosa (Macao).

AMONG the arrivals for the season is Dr. Paul Riga von Wittekind, M.R.C.V.S., a retired officer from the British India, and Federated Malay States Government Service. He is a veterinary surgeon of considerable repute.

A SPECIAL service will be held at St. Peter's Church, Queen's Road West on Christmas morning at 10 o'clock. The offertory will be on behalf of the "Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Society." All are welcome.

THE rumour that eight of the Rickmer's steamers were purchased by the North German Lloyd is contradicted. Only two of Rickmer's steamers were purchased, and three of them chartered for a long period by the Norddeutscher Lloyd, says an exchange.

A NAVAL and Military Christmas service in connection with the Wanchai Garrison Church will be held in St. Andrew's Hall to-morrow, Friday, morning at a quarter past ten o'clock. The service will not exceed an hour and visitors are invited. Christmas hymns will be sung.

By kind permission of Major Radcliffe and Officers the Band of the 93rd Burma Infantry will play at the Hongkong Hotel on Saturday evening from 8 to 9.30 p.m.

March. "The Stars and Stripes for Ever"..... Sousa  
"The Stars and Stripes for Ever"..... Sousa  
"The Stars and Stripes for Ever"..... Sousa  
"The Stars and Stripes for Ever"..... Sousa  
"The Stars and Stripes for Ever"..... Sousa  
"The Stars and Stripes for Ever"..... Sousa  
"The Stars and Stripes for Ever"..... Sousa  
"The Stars and Stripes for Ever"..... Sousa  
"The Stars and Stripes for Ever"..... Sousa  
"The Stars and Stripes for Ever"..... Sousa

AN alleged theft of \$90 on board the *Aphrodite* has just been inquired into at Singapore. On the morning of Nov. 25th two passengers reported the loss of money amounting to \$290. These men, with seven others, occupied a corner on the deck under the companion ladder. The supercargo had the boxes of all these brought out and before opening them asked how much money each contained. One said he had \$48 and this proved to be the case. Another said he had \$20, then \$40, but when his box was opened, it was found to contain \$220.21 in four rolls of \$50 each and 20 loose dollars. The money was so placed that the clothes had to be taken out separately to discover it. A cheque for \$516 which was found in one of the boxes made the case a very complicated one. The Court came to the conclusion that the theft had been committed and sentenced the two defendants to a year each. A more complicated case has seldom been before the police magistrates, remarks the *Straits Times*.

A well-informed official in Bangkok states that it will give an idea of how the Siamese race is being swamped by other Oriental tribes, when the number of pure Siamese is estimated at about 100,000. Even few of the Siamese of the royal family of the present generation, can claim to be of pure Thai extraction.

REPORTS reach Tokyo to the effect that Russian troops, which arrived at Chita in Siberia a few months ago from Europe, have been gradually transported to Possiet Bay and other places. Troops have been passing Tashchao, in Manchuria, daily of late, going in the direction of Port Arthur. They are supposed to be new arrivals from Europe.

AN attempt was lately made to wreck the train running from Haiphong to Hanoi. During the night some natives removed the rails on one side of the track, for a distance of several yards. This was fortunately discovered an hour or so before the first train passed the spot, and an accident, which might have had terrible consequences, was averted. The police are actively searching for the authors of the outrage.

THE stranding of the Netherland Company's steamer *Koningin Regentes* in Banka Straits, when plying on the Java-Singapore-Sabang-Holland run, has aroused sharp comment. The trend of opinion is that the Company, before venturing into new waters, should have profited by the experience gained by its competitors, and should have gone more warily to work with its steamers.

THOSE optimists who see a bright future for Sabang, now that Netherlands mail steamers are calling there, hope great things from the Deli tobacco trade being turned aside thither for facility of shipment. In Holland they are not very hopeful, and look forward to only 1,000 bales of the leaf being forwarded by way of Sabang at the next season. The *Deli Courant* gainsays this, and estimates the quantity at 60,000 to 70,000 bales.

THE fact that rats play an important part in the spread of disease, more especially the plague, has induced the port sanitary authority on the Thames to attempt the extermination of rats in the docks, warehouses, and on board vessels lying in the docks. During the last month nearly 6,000 rats have been destroyed, and their bodies burned in ships' furnaces. From the beginning of the year to the end of September nearly 60,000 were killed. The total for last year reached 185,982, and the number destroyed up to date has been 249,718.

WHILE it is impossible to secure a direct statement as to the identity of the Clyde yachtman who proposes to challenge for the America's Cup in 1904, it may be accepted as practically certain that Kenneth M. Clark will challenge, and that George L. Watson will design the yacht, on condition that Mr. Clark be allowed to challenge under the British racing rule, or the present New York Yacht Club rule. Mr. Clark is a director of Conates, and has large business on both sides of the Atlantic. The family has led Scottish yachting for a quarter of a century.

SOME discussion is going on at home in the papers regarding pearl farming on scientific lines. It may not be generally known that the Chinese have made great progress in what may be called the artificial production of the pearl. They do this by inserting foreign substances, frequently in the form of josses, which the animal, to protect itself, covers with nacre. There are many families of Chinese who live and die in punts or barges moored in the rivers or canals, and some of them completely support themselves by laying these shells, after they are charged, on the river-bottom underneath where they live.

ROUGH weather is again being experienced in the China Sea, and shipping is being delayed. Most of the incoming steamers report the prevalence of strong winds and high seas, and in several instances slight damage has been caused. The s.s. *Indrasumbe*, which came in from Manila this morning, experienced storms, Capt. Craven reporting that, after leaving the Philippines, the deck cargo, consisting of bamboos, got adrift, and considerable difficulty was experienced in securing lashings. The bamboos, of which there are 20,000 odd bundles, are destined for the St. Louis Exposition where they will be utilised for the purpose of building huts, etc. The cargo also includes a number of models of native huts, and an old cannon.

IN a letter from Captain Gundersen of the Russian steamer *Progres*, which appears in the *Kobe Chronicle*, it is stated that when the vessel was attacked by the baitiff of the Court on behalf of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, the Captain, officers, and crew were told that they must leave the ship. This is somewhat extraordinary, observes the paper; for, unless the Court places a master mariner on board and a sufficient crew to man the vessel in case of emergency, the *Progres* must be exposed to risks from dragging her anchor or collision with another ship in the harbour during the storm. Who would then be responsible? The usual practice is for the agents to make a deposit with the Court on a vessel being attached and the ship then proceeds on her voyage. It would be interesting to know why this was not done on the present occasion. Captain Gundersen points out that the assessors in the Court called by the Russian Vice-Consul to try the case were both British master mariners, and apparently the proceedings were conducted in English. We have received a copy of the evidence given in, and the finding of, this most unusually constituted Court.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to our Tientsin correspondent, from beyond the Wall, "The Liao River still open, that is sampans can cross during the day time by dodging the loose ice. A sampan now costs \$5 however. The chief difficulty experienced by passengers is to and from the other side is the absence of any accommodation, there being no rest house."

IN a paper on a journey in Sumatra, *Travel* says that scorpions, centipedes, and mosquitoes are most familiar to the European sojourner in the land, while one of the chief annoyances met with in the bush is a small leech, which drops off the dew-laden leaves as he passes in the cool of morning, and exacts a heavy toll from ankles, legs, and any exposed part of the body. Fireflies flit among the trees at night, and yield so bright a light that it is quite possible to read by the glow of two or three confined under a glass.

SOME weeks ago Reuter cabled that a murderous attack with a revolver was made on Mr. Graham, secretary of the Bank of England, by an individual who is insane. It appears that the lunatic asked to see the manager of the Bank of England and was shown into a reception room where Mr. Graham and others were gathered. The stranger took up a position in front of the fire, pulled out a revolver and commenced shooting, in the meantime shouting, "Come on, you coward." The occupants of the room fled, and the lunatic was finally overpowered by the attendants.

THE big naval programme which it seems certain that the Admiralty will submit next season will be justified on the ground that it is rendered necessary by the action of other powers. Russia has this year laid down four new battleships, and Germany is about to lay down two. Hitherto the British Government has acted on the principle that the British navy must be equal to that of France and Russia. The action of the German Government has now become a factor in the situation, and it seems that the Admiralty policy will in future be governed by the possibility of having to fight either Russia and France or Russia and Germany.—*Ex.*

DURING last month, the Government Mint at Osaka turned out Yen 3,210,000 of 10-yen gold and Yen 91,000 of 50-sen silver, while Yen 2,210,350 of 10-yen gold and Yen 91,000 of 50-sen silver were delivered to the Central authorities. The total values of the coins struck and delivered by the Osaka Mint in the eleven months just ended are as follows:—

	Struck.	Delivered.
Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
10 yen gold .....	26,693,000	23,245,303
50 sen silver .....	749,500	742,600

Total... 27,439,500 24,688,308

The receipts of gold bullion by the Mint for last month amounted to 2,280 lbs.

ADVICES from Odessa attach great importance to the departure from that port of the steamer *Trouvor* for the Persian Gulf. She carries nearly four thousand tons of Russian manufactures, which are to be sold in markets in Southern Persia at prices little above their cost, with a view to the creation of the demand for Russian goods. This is the third attempt which has been made in this regard, the other two having proved failures. But on this occasion the proprietors of the ship, it is said, have received a subvention of about £10,000 from the Czar's Government, and this action is the more interesting because it is contemporaneous with the announcement from St. Petersburg that a Russian guardship is to be permanently stationed in the Gulf.

THE girl named Meyer, who has been plunged in a comatic sleep during the past eighteen years, was awakened on 15th ult. in her native village, near Bremen, by the sound of bells pealing to announce a fire. She possesses all her faculties, remembering everything that happened previous to her illness. She was well nourished during her sleep, and willingly allowed her mouth to be opened, but if the food was not to her taste she closed her teeth. Her sense of smell was especially well developed, and she knew immediately if a stranger entered the room. On the other hand, the sense of hearing and of speech completely disappeared during her unconsciousness. Since awakening, she is in great fear of again going to sleep. High medical authorities are baffled by this remarkable case, and great physicians frequently studied her illness, but failed to discover a remedy.

THE London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* says he has just seen a very curious and significant statement attributed on good authority to Admiral Alexieff, the Russian Viceroy of the Far East. Speaking of a possible war with Japan, he said that the Russians would adopt a Scythian plan of campaign. They would retreat, disappear, and not be found. The Japanese might, and perhaps could land 200,000 men in Korea, where the maintenance of such an army would mean financial ruin to Japan in time. The Russian fleet would take refuge under the guns of Port Arthur, and would sail out to do what damage it could to the enemy, and especially to prevent, as far as possible, food from Japan reaching her army in Korea. After some months of the wintry climate of the peninsula, when the Japanese army was weakened by privations, the Russians would take the offensive, as during Napoleon's campaign in Russia. England could give no material help, even if she were so disposed, for this would be a land war. The English alliance, said the Admiral, is a one-sided arrangement in which the obligations are with the Japanese, the advantages with the British.

SIXTEEN subscription China penny gifts are expected to arrive to-morrow, per s.s. *Choy Sang*, and they will be drawn for at Kennedy's Causeway Bay Repository at 4 p.m.

THE Hamburg-American Line's s.s. *Syria*, with a relief transport for the German Navy, stationed in the East, left Colombo on the 22nd inst. p.m. for Hongkong direct.

## THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

The cold, dry weather now being experienced should contribute much to the spending of a pleasant holiday. Many picnic parties have already been arranged, and various steamship companies intend running special excursion trips. The Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd. notify our readers that on Sunday the s.s. *Honam* (weather permitting and sufficient inducement offering) will leave here for Macao at 9 a.m. and commence the return journey at 9 p.m. The *Wing Chai* and *Tai On* are also making special trips, and having regard to the fact that a grand charitable bazaar is being held in Macao on Boxing Day and Sunday, many people will doubtless avail themselves of the special facilities afforded for making the trip. In Hongkong, members of the police are giving a dance to-morrow night, while the Arthur Hill Vaudeville Company are repeating their capital performance. A cricket match has been arranged to take place on the Cricket Ground to-morrow and Boxing Day between the H.K.C.C. and the United Services. The latter team will be represented by Sub-Lieut. Barron, R.N., Mid. Campbell, R.N., Major Chichester, D.A.A.G., Sub-Lieut. Cannab, Lieut. Heath 110th Mahr. L.I., Capt. Harris, R.M.A., Lieut. Hawkins, R.N., Mr. Horsey, R.N., Mid. Irwin, R.N., Lieut. Rimington, S.F. and Mr. Williams, R.N. On Boxing Day, at 2.15 p.m. a match will be played between teams from the Craigengower C. C. and the Kowloon Depot C. C. Wickets will be pitched on the Craigengower ground. The same afternoon at four o'clock the V.R.C.F.C. will meet the Sherwood Foresters at Causeway Bay. On the Happy Valley Hongkong Club will play the Officers of the Fleet. Kick-off at four o'clock. The following will play for the Club:—J. H. R. Hance, goal; H. C. Austen and E. F. Ancott, backs; H. C. Gray, J. W. C. Bonnar, and A. N. Other, halves; W. Williams, H. A. Brent, R. A. Whitmore, J. Richardson, and J. D. Danby, forwards.

## ROWING MEN AT DINNER.

## LAST EVENING.

A most enjoyable evening was spent at Kowloon yesterday, when about seventy members and friends of the Victoria Recreation Club sat down to a capital spread provided by Mr. J. Osborne, at the Kowloon Hotel. The Chairman of the Club was unable to attend, owing, we understand, to slight indisposition, and his seat at the head of the table was taken by Mr. H. C. Austen, who proved an excellent substitute.

After the dinner, the Chairman proposed the health of the King, and "The Prosperity of the Club," coupled with the name of the Hon. Secretary, was submitted by Lieut. Newman, of the *Amphitrite*, and responded to by Mr. Austen, who said the Club was in a flourishing condition, the members totalling 400. During the winter he hoped to be able to arrange scratch rowing races for the members, and he announced that, in March next, athletic sports would take place. He alluded to the competence of the new rowing captain, Mr. F. Lammett, and concluded by proposing the health of the late Secretary, Mr. F. W. White. The latter, in responding, said that although he was departing from the Colony shortly, he would still follow the fortunes of the V.R.C. He offered to donate a prize at the next sports and thanked the members for their cordiality. Mr. J. J. Leiria toasted the Visitors; and Mr. Moller, from Shanghai replied. The Press was next honoured by Mr. F. White, and having been acknowledged, the Ladies were toasted by Mr. F. Lammett. Mr. F. D. Bain responded on their behalf. Mr. Nobbs spoke a few words on sport in general, and advised all athletes, who desired exercise, to join the Volunteers, where they would receive sufficient manual training to develop their muscles.

Captain Cowlishaw, of the *Brilliant*, was unavoidably detained, but the ship was represented by the Chief Officer, Mr. Cummings the Second Officer and two apprentices. The health of the Captain was honoured amid cheers, and Mr. Cummings, in response, said the Captain and officers of the *Brilliant* were delighted with the success of the Regatta, and appreciated the courtesy of the Club in extending so cordial an invitation to them.

## SHIPPING AND MAILS.

## MAILS DUE.

Australian (*Taiyuan*) 27th inst.  
Indian (*Gregory Apar*) 28th inst.  
French (*Polynesien*) 30th inst.  
American (*Hongkong Maru*) 31st inst.  
Canadian (*Athenian*) 5th prox.  
American (*China*) 10th prox.

The *Apar* Co's s.s. *Gregory Apar* from Calcutta left Singapore for this port on 22nd inst. p.m.

The H. A. L. s.s. *Badenia* from Hamburg left Singapore for this port on 22nd inst. p.m. and may be expected here on 28th inst.

The C. P. R. Co's s.s. *Empress of Japan* arrived at Kobe at 8 a.m. on 23rd inst. and left again at noon, same day, for Yokohama where she was due to arrive at 1 p.m. on 24th inst.

THE Beer to drink in the tropics is the Beer  
made in the tropics—SAN MIGUEL.THE Beer to drink in the tropics is the Beer  
made in the tropics—SAN MIGUEL.THE Beer to drink in the tropics is the Beer  
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made in the tropics—SAN MIGUEL.



## TELEGRAMS

(Reuters.)

## War Risks.

London, 22nd December.

The rate on war risks at Lloyd's is now forty guineas per centum.

## The War Cloud.

The *Daily Telegraph's* correspondent at Nagasaki wires that the Government has given notice that they will require all the dry docks in the country for the fleet. The war-ships have begun docking and cleaning in turn.

LATER.

There is a more hopeful feeling regarding the Far East prevalent in the best informed circles in Japan. London has not received any information indicating that war is imminent, although it is undeniable that the situation continues grave and is affecting trade to some extent. Nothing is known about the reports that the Japanese in England have been warned to be in readiness to return home.

## MORE RUSSIAN WARSHIPS

FOR THE FAR EAST.

The St Petersburg *Vedomosti* states that it is intended to send to the Far East next year the Russian transport *Kavkazka* of 7,200 tons, which has been built at the new Admiralty yards, and is now lying in the Neva. She is designed to supply coal to warships afloat, and has accommodation for 3,500 tons; also for 32 officers, 1,000 men, and 16 horses. The Russian gunboat *Khvintsk*, which is being built at the stone dock of the new Admiralty yards, is intended to protect Russian interests in the Persian Gulf.

The *Kronstadt Vistnik* states that the Russian cruiser *Dmitri Dondukov* arrived at Cadix on November 9, and the *L.A.'s Rumi* and *Brodi* at Algiers on November 10, all outward bound for the Far East. The *Vedomosti* states that the new Russian battleship *Ostia*, on her way from Kronstadt to the Far East has been compelled to go into dry dock at Spezia, owing to damage received in the Atlantic some time at night. The precise occasion of the damage was unobserved by the crew, and it was not until water was found to be increasing in the hold and investigations were made as to the cause of this that the damage was discovered. The ship will not be able to proceed on her journey until the beginning of next year.

## GOLD PROSPECTING IN CEYLON.

RESULT OF AN EXPERT'S INVESTIGATIONS.

Rumours of hidden wealth, in the shape of gold, have been current in Ceylon from the earliest times, and the precious metal has been sought for by Europeans and Australians for half a century or more. Sir West Ridgeway, the late energetic Governor of the island, engaged the services of a gold expert from Home with a view to obtaining some definite knowledge as to whether gold existed, and if so, in what quantities. Mr. George Dixon, the expert appointed, arrived at Colombo at the end of May, 1902, and his report has just been issued. Mr. Dixon set to work with a will, and travelled over 3,000 miles, 1,078 of which he covered on foot. His general survey of the country, an area of about 24,000 square miles, is a fairly complete one, and has proved that there are in Ceylon practically no gravel terraces, and that the shallow gold deposits which are worked by the digger in other countries are not extensive or likely to be remunerative enough to attract investors. Wherever gravel was found it was tested, and in the hundreds of tests made the above-mentioned results were always obtained, though Mr. Dixon believes that by the dredging system, if suitable places were found, and the gold saving appliances were modified to suit the conditions necessary for saving both gems and gold, the undertaking, if properly managed, would pay.

## TRACES OF ANCIENT GOLD WORKINGS.

One interesting point in Mr. Dixon's report, says the *Madras Mail*, is that there are no old gold workings in Ceylon. The natives in former times, cunning miners that they were, though they knew of the existence of gold, did not work the gravels for it, which, he believes, bears out the theory of gold prospectors in this country, that where old gold workings exist gold will be found, but not elsewhere. Mr. Dixon also corroborates what the Australians and other Europeans who have worked the gravels in more recent times found, viz., that they could not make the work pay. He found in one place a few fair-sized flakes of gold, but the average value of the gravel was only 4½ p. per cubic yard. In no case was a single rich find of gold made, and that, in a digger's country, he says, is the first thing necessary to start mining on an extended scale. It must not be forgotten, however, that these remarks refer to surface work only, and that no inquiry has been made as to what minerals occur at depth. The presence of alluvial gold, even in minute quantities, implies, as Sir West Ridgeway says in his review of his Administration, that there must be, or must have been, rocks from out of which this gold has been washed. Mr. Dixon does not think that the gold which has been found in the gravel had its origin in the gneiss, but in either a capping rock which has long since been worn away, or possibly in a fold of hornblende schist such as occurs in the Kolar Gold Field. If the theory is correct, the gold produced from that capping rock will be found not in the hills but deeply

buried. Mr. Dixon therefore suggests that these deep deposits should at some future time be systematically tested by drilling with carefully selected apparatus.

## RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

While actual hostilities in the Far East may be postponed for a considerable period, opinion in London, as throughout America, is that a conflict is inevitable. As delay enables the Russians to add ships and men to their already great force in the danger zone it is thought they will avoid an act of war for the present, but there are signs that they may pursue a course so offensive as to force Japan's hand and make her the actual aggressor. *Harper's Weekly* in an interesting review of the causes leading to the present tension says, in part: The strife between Japan and Russia in the Far East springs from economic causes, and is therefore inevitable. In the view of both parties, the actual outbreak of hostilities has been, from the first, only a question of time and preparation. The moving force in Japan's case is self-evident; an immense population full of energy and enterprise, shut up within a narrow territory. With an area of less than a hundred and fifty thousand square miles, Japan has a population of over forty-five millions, a large part of which is crowded together with a density of from four to five hundred to the square mile. Japan compares accurately with Germany, in both size and numbers, if Bavaria be left out. As in Germany, the question of a future outlet dominates all others. Korea, separated from Japan by a narrow strait with a population of perhaps eight millions, spread over eighty thousand square miles, and with great untouched resources, is for Japan a Promised Land, the goal of centuries of ambition. Manchuria, with the immense area of three hundred and sixty thousand square miles, sparsely peopled by some eight millions, is a prospective paradise. The Japanese have, therefore, dreamed of a great empire, of nearly half a million square miles, which, with their energy and resources, would make them one of the greatest of nations.

After analyzing the naval strength of both nations, *Harper's* assumes that Japan would control the sea at first, but emphasises her vulnerability as compared with Russia. Defeat would mean annihilation for Japan unless there was interference in her behalf. Japan has the advantage in certain respects. Thus she can land her troops either on the north, the south, or the west of Korea, concentrating all her efforts on whichever point she selects. The Russian fleet cannot so concentrate, as it must to some extent guard both the eastern and western Korean coasts, and is thus of necessity divided. Therefore the preliminary advantage of position is with Japan. Yet against this we must make two heavy offsets in Russia's favour first, that Japan, having once got her troops landed in Korea, will have to operate far from her home base, and continually haunted by the problem of keeping open her line of communication and supplies, perpetually menaced by the Russian fleet. Secondly, Japan is immensely more vulnerable than Russia, in case of adverse fate. Russia, the real Russia, lies thousands of miles away, with Asian deserts and Siberian wastes between; unthinkable remote from all danger of invasion. But not so Japan. All her 45 million children, her cities, and resources are open on all sides to attack by the Russian fleet, and invasion for Japan would mean the end of the game. While Japan has certain advantages at the start, she practically risks her whole national life. Russia, though somewhat handicapped by circumstance, has practically nothing to lose; nothing that she could not reasonably hope to regain by dint of hard and resolute fighting. The writer says the latest news from the Far East "confirms the belief that the interests of Japan and Russia are essentially irreconcilable by negotiation, and that a reference of them to the arbitration of war cannot be long averted."

## CHINESE AGRICULTURALISTS.

IN PERAK.

Of the Chinese recruited by Dr. Leuring at Foochow for the Government agricultural Colony at Sitiawan in Perak, several hundreds have arrived that Mr. J. P. Rodger, the late Resident of Perak, writes thus on the subject to the Resident-General under date 31st October:—

Thanks to the exertions of the Protector of Chinese (Mr. Cowan) and the District Officer, Lower Perak (Mr. Brewster), every arrangement had been made for the reception and comfortable installation of these immigrants, in buildings already prepared on the land assigned to them at Sitiawan. Notwithstanding their unfortunate detention in Singapore (St. John's Island) I am glad to say that the 363 immigrants landed at Sitiawan are all doing well, and there is a fair prospect of their agricultural settlement proving successful. I consider that Dr. Leuring is deserving of high commendation for the manner in which he has carried out the duties entrusted to him, on behalf of the Perak Government, and I have caused him to be so informed.

Under date 26th October Dr. Leuring thus reports on the Colony:—

Since the 9th August I have visited the Colony thrice, and though we are not yet quite settled, the parcelling out of the land not yet having been completed, I am glad to state that a large terrain has already been cleared by the colonists and has been planted with rubber, vegetables, especially potatoes, the season being too late for paddy. I have no doubt that, with the further consideration and benevolence of the Government towards the scheme, the whole district in which the Colony is situated will soon assume a new and more promising aspect.

## HONGKONG EXCHANGE.

EX ITEMEN IN CHINATOWN.

According to a Vancouver paper, dated 21st ult., in every place in Chinatown where the wealthy Orientals of Vancouver mostly congregate there was violent excitement that morning. By some subtle way there spread through every section a report that the Hongkong rate of exchange had taken an unparalleled jump. No one knows how news spreads throughout the aristocratic parlours founded by False Creek, Columbia Avenue, Carrall Street and Market Alley, but Marconi is not in it in the matter of quick transmission, observes the journal. The story that bothered the Chinese financiers was that Hongkong exchange had jumped nearly 50 per cent. When the sun went down Friday evening it stood at about 43; to-day it was 80, a move that it had taken a leap to nearly 80. This meant a very serious state of affairs to many leading men in Chinatown, and they were on hand when the banks opened this morning, looking for information. The bank officials straightway informed them that it was a canard, originated in San Francisco. Hongkong exchange is steady and closed to-day as it did yesterday, a fraction under 44. Chinamen, when the first whisper of the rumour was heard, said that the advance was caused by the declaration of war between Russia and Japan, but their San Francisco advisers were evidently away off. Naniimo apparently had a similar experience, judging from the following despatch: Naniimo, B. C., Nov. 21.—(Special)—There was wild excitement in Chinatown to-day over a sudden jump in the Hongkong rate of exchange from 43 3/4 to 79. The sudden rise has created a panic among the leading merchants of Chinatown. Local banks can offer no explanation.

## THE MONEY MARKET PROSPECT, JAPAN.

A Tokyo banker writing to the *Yomiuri* in reference to the future of the economical situation, expresses the opinion that economic circles of the country, through long political disturbances, have failed to note the sluggishness of the money market. But as the political situation gets easier, business men are awakening to the fact that a large amount of money is lying idle in the banks, and it is generally anticipated that the circulation will become more sluggish than ever. The Government, says the banker, declares that preparations are so made that the country is prepared either for war or peace. If the preparations be really made by the Government for promoting works in Manchuria, and Korea upon the peaceful settlement of the Manchuria question, as they certainly are for war, the money ready to be used for war will be required for enterprise in China and Korea. Though the greater part of the money so required will probably be raised by the issue of bonds abroad, the money market in Japan may be in some degree affected. The present sluggishness is due to the diplomatic difficulty, and if everything is settled in peace, the economic circles of this country, which have long been oppressed by the situation, will recover, and the demand for money will be followed by such a stringency of circulation that the large margin of ¥40,000,000, left within the legal limit of the amount of Bank of Japan notes to be issued free of tax, may never again be recorded.

## SIR FRANK SWETTENHAM'S SUCCESSOR.

The retirement of Sir Frank Swettenham is from the Governorship of the Straits Settlements, and not necessarily from the Colonial Service. It seems likely that Sir Frank's medical advisers have decided against a further period of service out here. He was not in the best of health when he went home. The terms of the announcement, "retiring from the Governorship," do not preclude the possibility of our late Governor assuming other duties in connection with the Colonial Office. If his health holds out, it is exceedingly probable that his valuable services will be availed of in some capacity, although whether or not in the capacity hinted at by the writer in the *Glasgow Herald* remains to be seen. The question that naturally arises is, who is likely to succeed to the Governorship of this Colony. Gossip seems to have selected Sir C. A. Molony, Governor of Trinidad and Tobago, who has had a varied career of colonial service in West Africa, British Honduras, and the Windward Islands. Sir H. E. MacCallum, Governor of Natal, is also credited with having expressed a desire to return to the Straits, and there is no reason why he should not come back here, if such be his wish. There are also five or six other Colonial Governors who might accept the Governorship of the Straits, carrying as it does the High Commissioner of the Federated Malay States. If a man new to the Colony be appointed, he will not have a very easy task, for several of the older officials of the Colony have or are about to retire, while the transference to other Colonies of the best of our younger men has left a considerable gap. Mr. C. W. S. Kynnersley, the doyen of the Service, takes up the Resident Generalship of the F. M. S. next April, but only for a short period, as he proposes to retire at the end of next year. Although a service composed mainly of seniors often produces stagnation, yet, on the other hand, links between the old and the new are very desirable to secure continuity of policy. There are two furrows that we should have liked to have seen ploughed to the end by Sir Frank Swettenham, Singapore Harbour Improvement and the railway connection with the north, and our currency reform. It may be that a new-comer would think differently on these schemes and throw them back, and that we believe would be a genuine calamity for the Colony.—S. F. P.

## THE ARTHUR HILL.

WORLD'S ENTERTAINERS.

The opening performance of the short season to be given in Hongkong by the Arthur Hill Company of Vaudeville Stars attracted many people to the Theatre Royal last evening, where a very enjoyable entertainment was witnessed. The company is by no means a large one, but what there is of it is of the best, and there is no doubt it is one of the strongest combinations of its kind that has been seen in Hongkong for some time. Leonard Nelson, who styles himself a plain comedian "poor, proud and particular," is one of the principal artists in the company, and is a world of solid amusement, contributing largely to the success of the entertainment, which was full of novelty and mirth. Another attractive feature of the programme was Miss Leslie Norman, whose fine contralto voice was greatly appreciated. She was several times recalled, and had to respond to most enthusiastic encores. Then there was a clever turn given by Lantern the Mystic, whose novelties were performed with perfect skill and finesse. Mr. Victor Kelly kept the audience in a continual ripple of laughter with his quaint, dry humour and amusing specialty, "On Parade." There were other items, which also created unbounded admiration, and altogether the entertainment was excellent throughout, and those who fail to see it during the next few nights will miss a treat which seldom comes this way.

## SOME NOTABLE YULETIDES.

One of the most famous Yuletides in British history was that of 1066, William the Conqueror being crowned at Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day. Another, that of 1170, saw the murder (December 29) of Thomas a Becket, before the altar of Canterbury Cathedral. In 1215, London was under the interdiction of Pope Innocent, who had also excommunicated the Barons who refused to submit to King John.

In 1348, the Black Death was raging. In 1384, the persecution of Wycliffe was rapidly bringing on that paralytic stroke by which he died on December 31.

The Lollards had every reason to fear Christmas. In 1401, the law for the burning of heretics was being drafted, and in the following February William Sauter, the first of our Protestant martyrs, was burnt at the stake; while in 1414, Sir John Oldcastle was meditating his ill-fated scheme for seizing the King's Person, which ended early in January by the execution of all his associates.

For the Stuarts Christmas sometimes breathed tragedy. Mary, Queen of Scots, was born on December 8. Eight days later she was hurried off to France, immediately after the death of her father, James V., on the 13th. During December, 1644, Montrose opened his fruitless campaign in Scotland; on December 23, 1648, Charles I. made his last mournful journey under escort to Windsor; and in 1650, on Christmas Eve, Edinburgh surrendered to Cromwell. On December 24, 1688, James II. escaped to France, leaving Judge Jeffreys to flee for safety to the Tower; and on December 28, 1694, Mary Stuart, wife of William, died comparatively young. On December 22, 1715, the Old Pretender landed at Peterhead, and, curiously, in 1745, it was during December that the campaign opened in Cumberland.

In 1644 the English Parliament abolished the Prayer Book, and appointed a Directory of Public Worship, making Christmas a fast instead of a feast. On December 21, 1620, the Pilgrim Fathers founded New Plymouth. In 1684 was the great frost, when the Thames was covered with ice 11 in thick, and a fair was held and bullocks roasted upon it. On Christmas May, 1759, the 32-gun vessel *Solebay* was lost near Boston Neck, the crew perishing. The Old Pretender, the "Chevalier de St. George," died December 30, 1765. On Christmas Eve, 1811, three British warships—the *St. George*, 98 guns, *Defence*, 74 guns, and *Hercules*—stranded on the coast of Jutland, Admiral Reynolds and the whole of the officers and crews, over 2,000, being lost, except 18 seamen. In 1839 the Lyme Regis landslide commenced on December 24, and concluded on December 27, houses, fields, etc., being covered to the sea beach. The same Christmas Frost, Williams, and Jones, the Chartist, were awaiting trial for high treason, and soon after sentenced to death. The sentences were commuted to transportation for life, and the prisoners went to Australia. The Christmas of 1841 saw the murder at Cabul by Abbas Khan of Sir William Macnaghten and Captain Trevor, followed by the disastrous retreat of the British forces, consisting of about 4,500 fighting men and 12,000 followers. Of these only Mr. Brydson reached Jellalabad, the others being captured and slaughtered by the Afghans in the mountain defiles. It was just before Christmas (December 22, 1845, when the great Anti-Corn Law League meeting was held at Manchester, at which £64,984 was subscribed.

The Dublin *Evening Post*, at Christmas, 1846, wrote: "It is as if we were on the brink of a wild convulsion. People seem absolutely beside themselves. They are either reduced to utter helplessness, or seem ready to band themselves in a mad warfare with the authorities, who we know are labouring night and day to avert, or to mitigate, the manifold evils of the country." At Drogheda Fair, two cartloads of firearms were disposed of amid great excitement, and at Carlow a sale of arms and ammunition was protracted over several days. At Caher the people turned out, partially armed, to prevent the departure of corn to Limerick.

A disastrous Caffre war broke out at Christmas, 1850, and in the first engagement the British under Colonel Somerset, were defeated, after four hours' hard fighting and left a gap in the hands of the enemy. The war lasted until March, 1851. On Boxing Day, 1851, we conquered Lagos, and at the same time Palmerston retired from the office of Foreign Minister, smarting under the Queen's letter of censure. The Christmas Day of '78 will long be remembered at Alderney. A dispute arose

between the men of the 24th Regiment (the South Wales Borderers) and a company of the Tower Hamlets (City of London) Militia. The discussion got so hot that the men of the 24th crossed over to the quarters of the militia, and fired upon them, one being killed, and four wounded. The dispute was as to which had got "the best Christmas dinner!"

Christmas Eve, 1860, was the oldest night and Christmas Day the coldest day recorded in Great Britain for fifty years. In Staffordshire the thermometer registered 15deg. below zero, or 47deg. of frost; and one at Penryn, near Edinburgh, 14deg. below zero (46deg. of frost). The next year the Empire was in mourning, Prince Albert having died on December 14, and been buried on December 23. The first Fenian Convention was held at Chicago on Christmas Day, 1863.

At Christmas, 1871, the British Empire was greatly excited over the illness of the Prince of Wales (King Edward), and the bulletins were anxiously awaited. In a letter written on Christmas Day, at Windsor Castle, Queen Victoria acknowledged the sympathy manifested by all classes: "The universal feeling," wrote Her Majesty, "shown by her people during those painful, terrible days, and the sympathy evinced by them with herself and her beloved daughter, the Princess of Wales, as well as the general joy at the improvement in the Prince of Wales' state, have made a deep and lasting impression on her heart, which can never be effaced."

Railways dread the holiday season. Owing to the heavy excursion traffic on Boxing Day, 1870, eight persons were killed on the Great Northern Railway at Bell Busk, near Hatfield, owing to the breaking of an axle. On Christmas Eve, 1874, a train ran over the embankment at Shipton, near Oxford, 34 persons being killed and 74 injured. On December 28, 1878, occurred the terrible Tay Bridge disaster, when during a gale the bridge broke, and the North British mail train dropped into water, got beneath, all in it perishing. The exact number of the victims is not known, but it is believed to have been nearly 100. On December 24, 1881, 12 passengers by the Great Northern express were killed at Slough. On December 23, 1894, the London and North-Western express came into collision at Chelford, near Crewe, during a gale, with a goods train which had been blown on to the line, and 14 deaths resulted. On Christmas 1901 occurred the shocking disaster at Liverpool, when a train of the electric railway took fire in a tunnel, seven lives being lost and many persons injured.

## COMMERCIAL.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.	
ON LONDON, Telegraphic Transfer .....	1/8 1/2
" Bank Bills, on demand .....	1/8 9/16
" Credits, 4 months' sight .....	1/8 15/16
" D'ments 4 months' sight .....	1/9 1/16
ON BERLIN, (demand) .....	M. 1/75
ON PARIS, Bank Bills, on demand .....	2.15 1/2
" Credits, 4 months' sight .....	2.19
ON NEW YORK, Bank Bills, on demand .....	41 1/2
" Credits, 30 days' sight .....	42 1/2
ON BOMBAY, Telegraphic Transfer .....	127
" On demand .....	127 1/2
ON SHANGHAI, Telegraphic Transfer .....	7 1/4
" Private 30 days' sight .....	nom.
ON YOKOHAMA, T.T. .....	83 1/2
Sovereigns, Bank's Buying Rate .....	\$11.65
Gold Leaf 100 touch, per tael .....	60.50
" Silver .....	15 1/2

OPIUM QUOTATIONS.	
To-day's quotations are as follows:—	
MALWA NEW .....	@ 920/950
" LAST YEAR .....	@ 970/1,040
" OLDEST .....	@ 1,060/1,100
PATNA NEW .....	@ 1,205
BENARES NEW .....	@ 1,205
PERSIAN (PAPRR) .....	@ 810/850

## To-day's Advertisements.

## HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

## NOTICE.

MEMBERS are reminded that Nominations for the Hongkong Derby (to be run on TUESDAY, 23rd FEBRUARY, 1904), close to the undersigned at the Hongkong Club House on SATURDAY, 26th DECEMBER, instant.

By Order,  
T. F. HOUGH,  
Clerk of the Course.  
Hongkong, 24th December, 1903. [1549]

## DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW.  
THE Company's Steamship

"HAITAN,"  
Captain Roach, will be despatched for the above Ports, on SUNDAY, the 27th instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
DOUGLAS, LAFFRAIK & CO.,  
General Managers.  
Hongkong, 24th December, 1903. [1546]

FOR CHEMULPO, DALNY AND PORT ARTHUR.  
(Calling at SHANGHAI).  
THE Steamship

"SULLBERG,"  
Captain Meyer, will be despatched for the above Ports, on FRIDAY, the 1st January, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
HAMBURG-AMERIKA-LINIE,  
Hongkong Office.  
Hongkong, 24th December, 1903. [1547]

FOR YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND TSINGTAU.  
THE F.A.L. Steamship

"BADENIA,"  
Captain Rorden, will be despatched for the above Ports, on SATURDAY, the 2nd January, at Noon.

For Freight, apply to  
HAMBURG-AMERIKA-LINIE,  
Hongkong Office.  
Hongkong, 24th December, 1903. [1548]

## To-day's Advertisements.

## HONGKONG HOTEL.

DINNER.  
SATURDAY, 26th December, 1903.

MENU.  
HORS D'OEUVRES.  
Tartlets à la Russe.

SOUP.  
Cock-a-Leekie.

FISH.  
Smoked Garoupa and Butter Sauce.

ENTREES.  
Chicken Cutlets and Spinach.  
Beef Olives.  
Mongolian Patties.

CURRY.  
Ox Tail.

JOINTS.  
Roast Ribs of Beef.  
Roast Wild Goose and Sauer Kraut.  
Boiled Corned Round of Beef and Carrots.

COLD.  
Game Pie and Potato Salad.

SWEETS.  
Sago Pudding.  
Raspberry Ice Cream and Genoa Cake.  
Apricot Tart. Topsy Cake.

DESSERT. COFFEE. [1545]

NOTICE.  
THE DISTRICT LODGE OF HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA will hold its TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING at the MASONIC HALL, on TUESDAY, the 29th instant, at 9 P.M.  
All Master Masons are cordially invited to attend.

A. O. D. GOURDIN,  
D. G. Secretary.  
Hongkong, 24th December, 1903. [1546]

## Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL.

TO-NIGHT (THURSDAY),  
DECEMBER 24TH.

## HILL'S WORLD'S ENTERTAINERS.

Will play a short season, presenting for the first time in Hongkong a thoroughly High-class performance, introducing Star Acts from the principal cities in the world. THE BEST COMPANY AND THE STRONGEST COMBINATION OF TALENT EVER SEEN IN THE EAST is the unanimous opinion of the Press. The following are among the members of the company:

HILL AND SYLVIANI,  
IN POSITIVELY THE GREATEST CYCLE AND UNICYCLE ACT IN THE WORLD.

A Continental Star Performance from the EMPIRE, LONDON, the FOLIES BERGERS, PARIS, WINTERGARTEN, BERLIN, and KEITH'S and ORPHEUM CIRCUITS, AMERICA.

KELLY and AGNAS,  
Comedy Sketch Artists, introducing Eccentric Dances, Acrobatic Comicalities and Mirth-provoking Finales.

MISS LESLIE NORMAN,  
New Zealand's Greatest Operatic Mezzo-Soprano.

LAZERN THE MYSTIC,  
From the Crystal Palace, London, presenting a novel and up-to-date exhibition of leg-dance.

LEONARD NELSON,  
Just a Plain Comedian.

FUN IN SHADOWLAND,  
A New and Novel Act by the Entire Strength of the Company.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY MATINEE,  
SATURDAY, 26th DECEMBER.

FREQUENT CHANGES OF ALL ACTS.

Plan of reserved seats now open at Robinson's. Prices, \$1, \$2, and \$3.  
Hongkong, 24th December, 1903. [1542]

## Intimation.

THE POPULAR  
SCOTCH  
IS  
"BLACK & WHITE"

JAMES BUCHANAN & CO.  
SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS  
By Appointment to  
H.M. THE KING  
and  
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES

Supplied at all the LEADING CLUBS and HOTELS, and to be obtained from LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., 10, Queen's Road Central.



Shipping—Steamers.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LD.  
AND  
CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAV. CO., LD.

JOINT SERVICES.

TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR ALL EUROPEAN,  
NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN, WEST AUSTRALIAN, JAVA  
AND SUMATRA PORTS.

FORTNIGHTLY SAILINGS FOR LONDON AND CONTINENT.  
MONTHLY SAILINGS FOR LIVERPOOL.

OUTWARDS.

FROM	STEAMERS	DUE
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PVRHUS"	On 27th December.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"TYDEUS"	On 27th December.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"NESTOR"	On 1st January.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"KEEMUN"	On 8th January.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"KINTUCK"	On 14th January.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PINGSUEV"	On 22nd January.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"MOVUNE"	On 28th January.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"GLAUCUS"	On 3rd February.

HOMEWARDS.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
MARSEILLES, L'DON & A'WERP.	"DARDANUS"	On 5th January.
MARSEILLES, L'DON & A'WERP.	"YANGTSE"	On 19th January.
LONDON & ANTWERP	"NESTOR"	On 2nd February.
GENOA, MARSEILLES & L'POOL	"KEEMUN"	On 15th February.
LONDON & ANTWERP	"KINTUCK"	On 16th February.
LONDON & ANTWERP	"MOVUNE"	On 1st March.

TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA, and all PACIFIC COAST PORTS.	"TYDEUS"	On 29th December.
NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA.	"PINGSUEV"	On 24th January.

Butterfield & Swire,  
AGENTS.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1903.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
SHANGHAI	"WOOHOU"	26th December.
MANILA	"CHINGTU"	30th "
PORT DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND, COOKTOWN, CAIRNS, TOWNS- VILLE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY and MELBOURNE	"CHINGTU"	30th "
MANILA	"KAIFONG"	30th "
KOBE	"TAIYUAN"	1st January.

\* The Attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by these  
steamers, which are fitted throughout with Electric Light. Unrivalled table. A daily  
qualified Surgeon is carried.

† Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.  
‡ Taking Cargo and Passengers at through Rates for all New Zealand and other Australian  
Ports.

N.B.—REDUCED SALOON FARES, SINGLE AND RETURN, TO MANILA AND  
AUSTRALIAN PORTS.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,  
AGENTS.

Hongkong, 24th December, 1903.

Hongkong-Manila.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers  
between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric  
Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewardess carried.  
—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of  
Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA  
STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Dates.
RUBI	2540	R. W. Almond	MANILA (DIRECT)	SATURDAY, 26th Dec., at 10 A.M.
ZAFIRO	2540	R. Rodger	MANILA (DIRECT)	SATURDAY, 2nd Jan., at 10 A.M.
PERLA	1980	A. H. Nottley		

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,  
GENERAL MANAGERS.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1903.

PORTLAND & ASIATIC STEAMSHIP CO.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, VIA SHANGHAI, INLAND  
SEA OF JAPAN, MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

PORTLAND, OREGON,

OPERATING IN CONNECTION WITH

THE OREGON RAILROAD AND NAVIGATION COMPANY.

Steamship	Tons	Captain	To Sail
"INDRAVELLI"	4,899	R. P. Craven	Jan. 14, 1904.
"INDRAPURA"	4,899	A. E. Hollingsworth	Feb. 13, "
"INDRASAMHA"	5,197	W. E. Craven	

Through Bills of Lading issued to Pacific Coast Ports and all Eastern, Canadian and  
United States Ports. For through rates of Freight and further information, communicate  
with or apply to

ALLAN CAMERON, General Agent,

1266c

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

REGULAR SERVICE

MANILA LINE.

BETWEEN HONGKONG AND  
MANILA IN 48 HOURS.

Largest and Fastest Steamers on the route. Excellent Accommodation. Cuisine Unexcelled.  
Unrivalled Speed. Fitted throughout with Electric Light. Doctor and Stewardess carried.

Steamship.	Tons	Captain.	Sailing Date.
ROSETTA MARU	3,876	H. S. Smith	TUESDAY, 29th December, at 11 A.M.
ROHILLA MARU	3,869	Ernest Bent	SATURDAY, 2nd January, at 11 A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply at the Company's Office, 3, Queen's Building, Ice House  
Street.

K. NAKASHIMA, Manager.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1903.

Shipping—Steamers.

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,  
LIMITED.

HONGKONG-MANILA.

REDUCED SALOON PAS-  
SAGE MONEY.

SINGLE, \$20. RETURN, \$35.

STEAMERS fitted throughout with Electric  
Light, First Class Accommodation. Un-  
rivalled Table. Daily qualified Surgeon carried.  
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 8th July, 1903. [804e]

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "WING CHAI,"

Captain SAMUEL BELL SMITH.

DEPARTURES from Hongkong, on Week  
Days, at 7.30 A.M.; on Excursion Sundays,  
at 8.30 A.M.; from Macao, Week Days at about  
2 P.M. and Sundays about 7.30 P.M.

FARE—(Week Days) 1st Class (including  
cabin and servant), \$3; Return Ticket, \$5;  
2nd Class, \$1; 3rd Class, 50 cents.

On Excursion Sundays, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Class  
Single Ticket, \$2; Return Ticket, \$3. Return  
Ticket including Tiffin and Dinner either on  
Board or at Macao Hotel, \$5. On Sundays,  
\$5 extra will be charged for each cabin with  
accommodations for two or more passengers.

WHARF—At the Western end of Wing Lok  
Street.

The Steamer runs an Excursion Trip EVERY  
SUNDAY. It takes only 3½ hours to reach  
Macao.

MING ON & CO.,  
2nd Floor, No. 16, Victoria Street.  
Hongkong, 7th September, 1903. [1073e]

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE Splendid New Steel Twin Screw  
Steamer

"KWONG CHOW"

1,474 Tons, Captain Walker, leaves HONG-  
KONG for CANTON at 8.30 P.M. on SUNDAYS,  
TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS, returning  
to Hongkong the following days leaving  
CANTON at 5 P.M. Unexcelled Accommoda-  
tion for First Class Passengers. Ship lighted  
throughout by Electricity.

Passage Fare, \$4 Single Journey.  
Meals \$1 each.

The Company's Wharf is West of the Hong-  
kong Harbour Master's Office.

SHIU ON S.S. CO., LTD.,  
No. 8, Queen's Road West.  
Hongkong, 30th May, 1903. [1322e]

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

NORDDEUTSCHER HAMBURG-AMERIKA  
LOYD.

STEAM FOR  
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, HIOGO  
AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Imperial German Mail Steamship

"BAYERN,"

of the NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD,  
Captain H. Förster, due here with the outward  
German mail about WEDNESDAY P.M., will  
leave for the above places about 12/24 hours  
after arrival.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.  
For further Particulars, apply to  
MELCHERS & CO.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1903. [1563e]

BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION  
COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR AMOY, SWATOW, STRAITS  
AND RANGOON.

THE Company's Steamship

"AVOCA,"

Captain W. A. Fausset, will be despatched as  
above on MONDAY, the 28th instant, at Noon.  
For Freight or Passage, apply to  
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 21st December, 1903. [1572e]

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION  
COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND  
CALCUTTA.

THE Company's Steamship

"NAMSANG,"

Captain Geo. Payne, will be despatched as above  
on WEDNESDAY, the 30th instant, at Noon.  
For Freight or Passage, apply to  
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,  
General Managers.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1903. [1539e]

COMPAGNIE DES MESSEGERIES  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS-POSTE FRANCAIS.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND  
YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship

"POLYNESIEN,"

Captain Le Coq, will be despatched for the  
above Ports on or about WEDNESDAY,  
the 30th instant.  
For Freight or Passage, apply to  
G. DE CHAMPEAUX,  
Agent.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1903. [1074e]

"GLEN" LINE OF STEAMSHIPS.

FOR LONDON AND ANTWERP.

THE Steamship

"GLENFARG,"

Captain Holman, will be despatched as above  
on SATURDAY, the 9th January, 1904.  
For Freight or Passage, apply to  
MCGREGOR BROS. & GOW,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 17th December, 1903. [1517e]

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE  
TO NEW YORK.

VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL  
(With Liberty to call at PHILIPPINE PORTS.)

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

1903.

"SIKH" About 12th Jan.

"SAGAMI" 26th Jan.

"AFRIDI" 9th Feb.

For Freight and further information, apply  
to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 31st December, 1903. [1394e]

Shipping—Steamers.

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO  
STEAMBOAT COMPANY,  
LIMITED.

SUNDAY EXCURSION TO MACAO.

THE Steamer

"HONAM"

(weather permitting and sufficient inducement  
offering) will make a SPECIAL EXCURSION  
TRIP TO MACAO next SUNDAY, the 27th  
instant, leaving Hongkong at 9 A.M. and Macao  
at 9 P.M.

Return Fare, \$5.00. Cabins, \$5.00 Extra.  
TICKETS obtainable on Board the Steamer.  
By Order of the Directors.

T. ARNOLD,  
Secretary.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1903. [1542e]

EXCURSION TO MACAO.

THE Commodious Steamer

"TAI ON"

will run a SPECIAL TRIP TO MACAO, on  
SUNDAY, the 27th instant, leaving her usual  
Wharf West at 9 A.M. and return from Macao  
at 8.15 P.M. sharp.

TICKETS, RETURN FARE, \$2.

A Charitable Bazaar in aid of the Canadian  
Sisters of Charity will be held at the Public  
Gardens, San Francisco, (Praia Grande).  
Meals can be had on Board.

RITCHIE & CO.,  
Hongkong, 21st December, 1903. [1530e]

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS  
TO MACAO.

THE Favourite Passenger Steamer

"WING CHAI"

will run SPECIAL TRIPS TO MACAO on  
the 26th, 27th and 28th December, leaving her  
Wharf in Hongkong at 9.30 A.M. Each Day  
and Macao at 7.30 P.M., arriving Hongkong  
about 11 P.M.

FARE—Return Ticket available for Three  
Days \$3.

The Steamer will also run on CHRISTMAS  
DAY, leaving Hongkong at 8.30 A.M. and  
Macao at 2 P.M.

MING ON & CO.,  
Hongkong, 16th December, 1903. [1514e]

THE AMERICAN ASIATIC STEAM-  
SHIP COMPANY.

STEAMSHIP SERVICE FOR NEW  
YORK VIA THE SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship

"HIMERA,"

Captain Lockhart, will be despatched as above  
on or about MONDAY, the 28th instant.  
For Freight, &c., apply to  
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,  
General Agents.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1903. [1454e]

"SHIRE" LINE.

FOR LONDON AND HAMBURG.

THE Company's Steamship

"FLINTSHIRE,"

Captain J. M. Haffner, will be despatched as above  
for the above Ports, on or about MONDAY,  
the 28th instant.

For Freight, &c., apply to  
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,  
General Agents.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1903. [1454e]

FOR LONDON, HAVRE AND  
HAMBURG.

THE Company's Steamship

"DENBIGHSHIRE,"

Captain W. A. Evans, will be despatched for the  
above Ports on or about FRIDAY, the 15th  
January, 1904, to be followed by the Steamship  
"RADNORSHIRE."

Captain C. H. Burch, on or about SATUR-  
DAY, the 30th January, 1904.

FOR SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE  
AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship

"RADNORSHIRE,"

will be despatched for the above Ports on or  
about THURSDAY, the 24th instant, at  
Daylight.

These Steamers have Superior Accommoda-  
tion for Passengers.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1903. [1537e]

Intimations.

NOTICE.

THE Public are hereby informed that no  
change has been made in the Rates of  
Subscription to the Hongkong Telegraph and  
they are warned against paying more than  
TEN CENTS (10 cts.) per Single Copy.

THE MANAGER,  
Hongkong Telegraph Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 30th September, 1903.

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY

TRADE THERAPION MARK

This successful and highly popular remedy, used in the  
Confidential Hospitals by Ricord, Broussais, Volpert, Velpeau  
and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a  
medicine of the kind, and surpasses everything hitherto  
employed.

THE THERAPION No. 1 is a re-  
markable remedy for all diseases of the urinary  
organs, especially suppurating cystitis, the use  
of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of  
stricture and other serious diseases. It dissolves the  
uric acid of the lower bowel, cough, bronchitis, asthma, and  
some of the more trying complaints of this kind. It will  
cure all these diseases, and, according to prompt relief  
where other well-tried remedies have been powerless.

THE THERAPION No. 2 purifies  
the blood, cures, pimples, spots, blotches, pains and swell-  
ing of the joints, neuralgia, sciatica, rheumatism, and  
all diseases for which it has been too much a fashion  
to employ mercury, arsenic, &c., to the destruction of  
the system and ruin of health. It dissolves the uric acid,  
purifies the whole system through the blood, and thoroughly  
eliminates every poisonous matter from the body.

THE THERAPION No. 3 is for  
nervous exhaustion, impaired vitality, sleeplessness, and all the  
consequences of early excess, excess, residence in  
hot, unhealthy climates, &c. It possesses surprising power  
in restoring strength and vigor to the debilitated.

It is sold by the prin-  
cipal Chemists and Druggists throughout the world. Price in England 4/6  
4/6 in America, state which of the three numbers is re-  
quired, and observe above Trade Mark which is a fac-  
simile of every "THERAPION" as it appears on the British  
Government Stamp (in White Letter) on a red ground  
and to every package by order of J. H. Watson & Co.,  
Manufacturers, and without which it is a forgery.

Sold by A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited,  
Hongkong, China and Manila. [1444e]

HONGKONG-AVERAGE-MARKET  
PRICES.

Corrected 9th December, 1903. per \$ Mex.

BUTCHER MEAT.

	Cents.
Beef sirloin & prime cut—Mei Lung Pa	17
" Corned—Ham Ngau Yuk	17
" Roast—Shiu	17
" Breast—Ngau Lam	17
" Soup—Ngau Yuk	17
" Steak—Ngau Yuk	17
" Serjion—Ngau Lam	17
" Sausages—Ngau Yuk Channing	17
" Bullcock's Brains—Know—per set	17
" Tongue fresh—Ngau Li	17
" Corned—Ham Ngau Li	17
" Head—Ngau Tau	17
" Heart—Ngau Sum	17
" Hump, Salt—Ngau Kin	17
" Feet—Ngau Kerk	17
" Kidneys—Ngau Yiu	17
" Tail—Ngau Mei	17
" Liver—Ngau Con	17
" Tripe (uncondensed)—Ngau To	17
" Calves' Head and Feet—Ngau-chai- tau-keek	17
" Mutton Chop—Yeung Pai Kw	17
" Leg—Yeung Pai Kw	17
" Shoulder—Yeung Shau	17
" Pigs' Chilliings—Chi cheong	17
" Brains—Chi Kow	17
" Feet—Chi Kerk	17
" Fry—Chi Chak	17
" Head—Chi Tau	17
" Heart—Chi Sum	17
" Kidneys—Chi Yiu	17
" Liver—Chi Con	17
" Pork, Chop—Chi Pak Kwat	17
" Corned—Ham Chu Yuk	17
" Leg—Chu Pei	17
" Fat or Lard—Chu Yau	17
" Sheep's Head and Feet—Yeung Tau	17
" Keok	17
" Heart—Yeung Sum	17
" Kidneys—Yeung Yiu	17
" Liver—Yeung Con	17
" Sucking Pigs—To Order—Chu Chai	17
" Suet, Beef—Sang Ngau Yau	17
" Mutton—Sang Yeung Yau	17
" Veal—Ngau Chai Yuk	17
" Sausages—Ngau Chai Yuk Tong	17

POULTRY.

Chicken—Kai Chai	22
" Capons, Large, Small—Sin Kai	22
" Ducks—Ap	22
" Doves—Pan Kau	22
" Eggs, Hen—Kai Tan	22
" Fowls, Canton—Kai	22
" Hainan—Hoi Nam Kai	22
" Geese—Ngi	22
" Geese, Wild Shanghai—Sheung Hoi Ye	22
" Ngi	22
" Musk Deer—Wong Keng	22
" Hare—Tu Chai	22
" Partridge—Che Khoo	22
" Pheasant—Shan Kai	22







HIGH CLASS  
GENTLEMEN'S  
OUTFITTERS.

EVERYTHING  
UP TO DATE.  
28, Queen's Road.

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HONGKONG,

GENERAL DRAPERS & HIGH CLASS  
DRESS-MAKERS.

HIGH CLASS  
GENTLEMEN'S  
OUTFITTERS.

FAMED FOR  
SHIRTS.  
28, Queen's Road.

# Grand Xmas Bazaar.

ONE THOUSAND TOYS AND GIFTS.

PRICES TO SUIT ALL.

10 CTS. TO \$50.

## High Class Fancy Goods.

USEFUL PRESENTS

FOR YOUNG AND OLD.

ON SHOW, TO-DAY.